

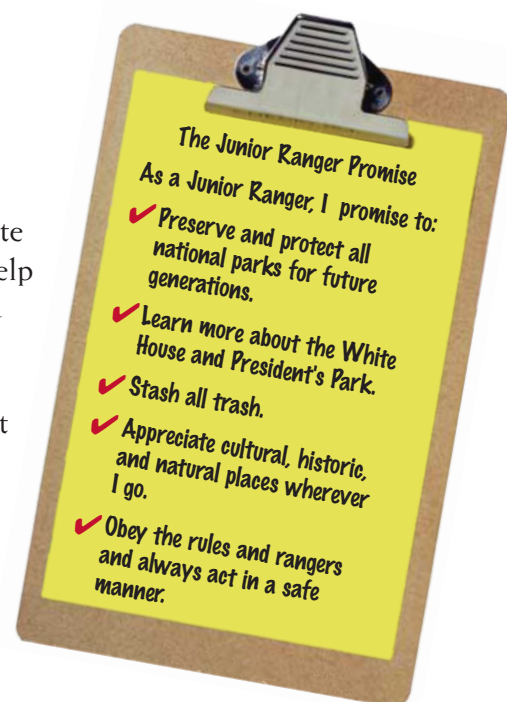
# White House VISITOR CENTER

1450 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

## Calling All Junior Rangers!

Kids of all ages, America needs your help to preserve, protect and understand the importance of its national treasures! We invite you to pick up a free copy of the President's Park Junior Ranger Program booklet, "On The Spot," available at the White House Visitor Center Information Desk and online. The Junior Ranger booklet will help you explore the Park, walk in the footsteps of each of the 43 Presidents of the United States, and learn about the significance of the White House and its neighborhood. Return your completed booklet and receive your badge designating you as an official President's Park Junior Ranger! If you're short of time, you can always mail the booklet back to us; the address is included inside the booklet.

Many other National Parks have Junior Ranger programs, and the National Park Service has a special on-line resource, "WebRangers," available at their website, [www.nps.gov/webrangers](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers), where kids of all ages can continue their National Park adventures.



### Navy Yard Urns

The five-foot high, four-foot wide ornamental bronze urns in Lafayette Park, situated at the 16th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue walkway, were cast here in Washington at the Navy Yard using melted cannons from the Civil War. The Ordinance Department of the United States Navy crafted them, and they were erected in Lafayette Park in 1872. They were presented by Secretary of the Navy, George Robeson. The urns were originally included in the 1852 plans for the Park by renowned landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing.

Originally these urns were placed on granite pedestals and located in the center of two flower beds east and west of the Andrew Jackson statue. In 1936, the urns were relocated within the Park at the center of Jackson and Madison Places and finally moved to their present position in 1969.



### First Ladies Film Series

During the month of March, the White House Visitor Center will be celebrating the enduring legacy and contributions made by American First Ladies with a special series of documentaries, screened daily at 12 noon:

Mondays – "First Ladies"

Tuesdays – "Laura Bush"

Wednesdays – "First Moms"

Thursdays – "Jackie Remembered"

Fridays – "Lady Bird Johnson"

## On Exhibit: Only at the White House Visitor Center

"The Presidential Seal" – The White House Visitor Center is observing the 60th anniversary of changes to the Presidential seal made during the Truman administration. The Presidential seal was inspired by the Great Seal of the United States, created in 1782.

The Presidential seal began as a small hand-held die which the President pressed into wax in order to seal important messages. An early die, probably created for President James K. Polk in 1845, was also used by President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War.

"Portraits from the President's House: The Staff of the Executive Residence" – It takes many people to manage a 132-room mansion that functions as the seat of the Executive branch of the government, a home for the President's family, and a museum for American and international visitors. View the black and white portraits of the "unseen" caretakers of the White House.

"White House Impressions: The President's House through the Eyes of the Artist" – This exhibition draws on the talents of fourteen prominent American artists representing the thirteen original states and the District of Columbia. The artists have captured on canvas their interpretations of the President's House, its very walls, rooms and furnishings, as well as the tastes of presidents and the American people.



# SPECIAL FAMILY ACTIVITIES



### Family Day

Join us at the White House Visitor Center on Monday, February 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., as a host of performances, demonstrations, crafts and other engaging activities are offered to celebrate Presidents' Day. For additional information, call the Visitor Center at (202) 208-1631. No reservations needed.



### February is Black History Month

For a calendar of special events and programs in the National Capital Region, call (202) 619-7222.



### Have Trunk, Will Travel

Attention Educators: President's Park now has a traveling trunk filled with period clothing, utensils, books and a curriculum guide focusing on the history of slavery in the United States. Educational facilities interested in this opportunity should contact us at (202) 208-1631.



### Kids Corner at the Visitor Center

On Saturday, March 18, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., we will offer a crafts program focusing on First Ladies in the White House.



### It's Cherry Blossom Time!

On March 27, 1912, First Lady Helen Herron Taft accepted a gift of 3,020 cherry trees from the Japanese government. This year marks the 94th annual National Cherry Blossom Festival celebrating that gift. Join us daily at 12 noon between Tuesday, March 28 and Saturday, April 1 for a special interpretive program, "Thank You, Mrs. Taft!" on the history of the festival.



# WALKS, TALKS AND OTHER THOUGHTS

Interpretive programs are presented by Park Rangers and volunteers daily at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. A guided theme walk is offered daily at 11:30 a.m. These programs last from approximately 35 minutes to one hour in length. More detailed descriptions of today's programs are available at the Visitor Center Information Desk.



### GUIDED WALKS AROUND THE PARK

These Ranger-guided walks stop at the many monuments and memorials around President's Park.

"The Changing Seasons" – Join a Park Ranger and discuss the many seasonal changes that occur in plants and animals found in the Park.

"A Walk around President's Park" – Discover some of the fascinating facts about this parcel of land surrounding the gates of the White House.

"Stepping through History" – Walk the paths of Lafayette and Sherman Parks and follow the progress of the nation against the backdrop of some of America's finest statues, memorials and public buildings.

"A Walk through President's Park" – View several statues and fountains and discuss the memorials and monuments to many people in history.



### PROGRAMS ABOUT 1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Learn about the White House and its important residents:

"Inside the West Wing" – A Ranger's talk focuses on the Presidential workplace.

"Flat Stanley, where are you?" – Have you heard? Flat Stanley has gotten lost while touring the President's House. Rumor has it he's had some amazing encounters!

"Presidents and Baseball" – Spring training will begin soon for America's "national pastime," and many presidents have thrown out the first ball at the beginning of baseball seasons in Washington, and other places.

"Wedding Bells in the White House" – The White House has been used on occasion as a venue for weddings. Learn more about these special events in White House history.

"Nellie and Me" – The story of the cherry blossoms, as told by the Viscountess Chinda, the wife of the Japanese ambassador, who, along with Mrs. Helen Herron Taft, accepted Japan's gift to the American people in 1912.

"Forty Three Special People" – During February, in order to honor the American Presidency, talks will review these 43 men and their accomplishments.



### THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Join a Park Ranger's discussion about the environs of Washington, D.C. and the White House.

"What's in this Place?" – Hear a Park Ranger describe the various themed exhibition alcoves in the Visitor Center – from First Ladies through Social Events at the White House.

"Frozen in Time" – The stories behind the many statues in President's Park.

"Washington's Washington" – It took parts of Virginia and Maryland to create America's new capital city. It's not a state, but a district.



### GREAT PEOPLE IN HISTORY

Join a Park Ranger's discussion about important contributors to our nation's history:

"Impeach or Not" – Join a Park Ranger and hear the story of Andrew Johnson.

"The General on the Hill" – Learn more about Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman.

"Harry S Truman" – Enjoy a discussion focused on the little man from Missouri who unexpectedly became President.

"Unsung Hero of the Nixon Administration" – Join a Park Ranger's discussion of Pat Nixon's remarkable life.

"Mary Todd Lincoln – Trials and Tribulations" – Form your own opinions on this controversial First Lady.

"The Last Great Battle" – The story of Ulysses S. Grant's struggle against his most daunting opponent.

"President Who?" – Learn about the 10 forgotten men who ran our country between the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the ratification of the Constitution (1777-1787).

# PULL UP A SEAT!



The documentary video, "Air Force One," will be screened at 1 p.m. on the following Saturdays: January 7 and 21, February 4 and 18, and March 11 and 25.



In observance of the Martin Luther King holiday, the video, "I Have a Dream" will be shown on Sunday, January 15 at 12 noon.

March is Women's History Month. See the story on the other side about special films we will be screening.



### Interpretive Program



### Walking Tour



### Video Presentation



### Musical Presentation



### Special Event



EXPERIENCE  
Your AMERICA

Programs may change due to reassignment of rangers to other duties that serve the National Park Service. Every effort is made to maintain the schedule as printed. Please contact the Visitor Center at (202) 208-1631 to confirm programs and dates. The Center is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, e-mail us at [wbho\\_presidents\\_park@nps.gov](mailto:wbho_presidents_park@nps.gov).

This calendar is sponsored by the National Park Service and the White House Historical Association.